

# NEWS RELEASE

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CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS



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## **Alleged Illegal Alien Charged with Conspiring to Distribute More than Five Kilos of Cocaine**

Rock Island, IL - Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that Emilio Elenes-Felix, age 34 or 35, of Oakland, California, was charged by a federal grand jury with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute more than five kilograms of cocaine; possession of five or more kilograms of cocaine with intent to distribute; and, unlawful re-entry into the United States after deportation.

The indictment alleges Felix conspired with others, in June 2006, to possess with intent to distribute five or more kilos of cocaine in Henry county, Illinois, on June 12, 2006. The indictment further alleges Felix, a native of Mexico, was deported and removed from the United States in December 1995 after being convicted in California in September 1995 for possession for sale of a controlled substance.

U.S. Attorney Heaton stated, "Disrupting the flow of narcotic drugs transported through or into central Illinois is one of our highest priorities. I commend the vigilance of the Illinois State Police troopers who perform this service daily on our highways."

Felix was arrested on June 12, 2006, and charged in a criminal complaint. The affidavit filed in support of the complaint alleges Felix was stopped by a trooper with the Illinois State Police for a speeding violation as Felix was driving eastbound on Interstate 80 in Henry county, Illinois. After obtaining consent to search the vehicle, law enforcement officers found 47 individually wrapped bundles of cocaine, each weighing approximately one kilogram, hidden within both rear side panels of the 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche pickup truck.

If convicted of the drug offenses, conspiracy to distribute with possess with intent to distribute and possession with intent to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine, each offense is punishable by a mandatory minimum 20 years in prison to life and a fine of \$8,000,000. Unlawful re-entry after deportation carries a maximum statutory penalty of 20 years in prison.

The charges are the result of an investigation by the Illinois State Police, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Henry County State's Attorney's Office and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew J. Cannon.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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